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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/882,838	06/15/2001	Chen-Peng Huang	CU-2570 RJS	9199
7590	11/30/2004		EXAMINER MENBERU, BENIYAM	
Ladas & Parry Suite 1200 224 South Michigan Avenue Chicago, IL 60604			ART UNIT 2626	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 11/30/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/882,838	Applicant(s) HUANG, CHEN-PENG	
	Examiner Beniyam Menberu	Art Unit 2626	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 June 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

On page 7, line 1-2, the reference "display unit 31" should be "display unit 50".

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

4. Claim 5 recites the limitation "said display unit" in line 11. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1, 2, 5, 9, and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6009082 to Caswell et al.

Regarding claim 1, Caswell et al disclose a call screening device adapted to interconnect a facsimile machine and a telephone line, said call screening device comprising (column 2, lines 65-67; column 4, lines 31-34):
a switch circuit adapted to be connected to the facsimile machine and the telephone line (column 2, lines 47-50, lines 54-59); and
a controller (column 7, lines 9-14) coupled electrically to said switch circuit and adapted to be connected to the telephone line (Figure 3, reference 309), said controller including a data storage unit for storing telephone numbers (column 42, lines 58-61),
an incoming call detector adapted to detect a caller telephone number associated with an incoming call on the telephone line (column 2, lines 50-58), and
a comparator unit for making a comparison between the caller telephone number detected by the incoming call detector and the telephone numbers stored in said data storage unit, and for controlling said switch circuit to make or break connection between the facsimile machine and the telephone line according to result of the comparison made by said comparator unit (column 2, lines 65-67; column 3, lines 10-16).

Regarding claim 2, Caswell et al teaches all the limitations of claim 1. Further Caswell et al disclose the call screening device of Claim 1, further comprising a keypad coupled electrically to said controller and operable so as to input the telephone numbers to be stored in said data storage unit (column 6, lines 13-18).

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Regarding claim 5, Caswell et al teach all the limitations of claim 2. Further Caswell discloses the call screening device of Claim 2, wherein said controller further includes a dual-tone multi-frequency signal generator for generating a dual-tone multi-frequency signal corresponding to the telephone number shown on said display unit for call back purposes (column 7, lines 46-54).

Regarding claim 9, Caswell et al teach all the limitations of claim 1. Further Caswell et al disclose the call screening device of Claim 1, wherein the telephone numbers stored in said data storage unit are associated with rejected callers, said comparator unit controlling said switch circuit to break connection between the facsimile machine and the telephone line when the caller telephone number corresponds to one of the telephone numbers stored in said data storage unit (column 42, lines 63-67; column 43, lines 1-2; column 41, lines 53-60).

Regarding claim 10, Caswell et al teach all the limitations of claim 1. Further Caswell et al disclose the call screening device of Claim 1, wherein the telephone numbers stored in said data storage unit are associated with non-rejected callers, said comparator unit controlling said switch circuit to maintain connection between the facsimile machine and the telephone line when the caller telephone number corresponds to one of the telephone numbers stored in said data storage unit (column 42, lines 56-61).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 3, 4, and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6009082 to Caswell et al in view of U.S. Patent No. 5995603 to Anderson.

Regarding claim 3, Caswell et al teach all the limitations of claim 2. However Caswell et al does not disclose the call screening device of Claim 2, further comprising a display unit coupled electrically to and controlled by said controller to show the caller telephone number thereon.

Anderson discloses a call screening device of Claim 2, further comprising a display unit coupled electrically to and controlled by said controller to show the caller telephone number thereon (column 4, lines 14-17).

Caswell et al and Anderson are combinable because they are in the similar problem area of call screening.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the display unit taught by Anderson into the system of Caswell et al to implement a call screening device with visual capabilities.

The motivation to combine the reference is clear because user needs to have a way of identifying visually who has called or sent a fax by using the display as taught by Anderson.

Regarding claim 4, Caswell et al in view of Anderson teach all the limitations of claim 3. Further Anderson discloses the call screening device of Claim 3, wherein said keypad is further operable so as to enable said controller to review the telephone numbers stored in said data storage unit and to control said display unit to show a reviewed one of the telephone numbers thereon (Figure 4, reference 84, 90, 92, 94, 96; column 4, lines 13-15; column 5, lines 55-60).

Regarding claim 6, Caswell et al teach all the limitations of claim 1. Further Anderson discloses the call screening device of Claim 1, further comprising a display unit coupled electrically to and controlled by said controller for showing selected ones of the caller telephone number and the telephone numbers stored in said data storage unit thereon (column 4, lines 14-17; column 5, lines 55-60).

9. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6009082 to Caswell et al in view of U.S. Patent No. 6393108 to McElwee.

Regarding claim 7, Caswell et al teach all the limitations of claim 1. However Caswell et al does not disclose the call screening device of Claim 1, wherein said

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incoming call detector includes dual-tone multi-frequency decoder for detecting the caller telephone number that is associated with the incoming call on the telephone line.

McElwee discloses incoming call detector includes dual-tone multi-frequency decoder for detecting the caller telephone number that is associated with the incoming call on the telephone line (column 4, lines 25-29).

Caswell et al and McElwee are combinable because they are in the similar problem area of caller identification system.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the dual-tone multi-frequency decoder as taught by McElwee for decoding incoming phone numbers in the system of Caswell et al.

The motivation to combine the reference is clear because McElwee suggests that when users input phone numbers using DTMF keypads upon request, the controller can decode this number using DTMF decoder (column 4, lines 24-29).

10. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6009082 to Caswell et al in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0159584 A1 to Sindalovsky et al.

Regarding claim 8, Caswell et al teach all the limitations of claim 1. However Caswell et al does not disclose the call screening device of Claim 1, wherein said controller normally operates in a sleep mode, and further includes a tone detector that is adapted to detect presence of an incoming tone signal on the telephone line, and to wake said controller from the sleep mode upon detection of the incoming tone signal.

Sindalovsky et al disclose controller normally operating in a sleep mode, and further includes a tone detector that is adapted to detect presence of an incoming tone signal on the telephone line, and to wake said controller from the sleep mode upon detection of the incoming tone signal (page 2, paragraph 13, lines 1-11).

Caswell et al and Sindalovsky et al are combinable because they are in the similar problem area of telephone systems.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the sleep mode with wakeup capabilities system as taught by Sindalovsky et al into the system of Caswell et al to implement call screening device that can operate in sleep mode and wake up during incoming calls.

The motivation to combine the reference is clear because power can be saved and signals can be detected concurrently by using the system of Sindalovsky et al (page 2, paragraph 12).

Other Prior Art Cited

1. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S. Patent No. 6792090 to Kobayashi discloses method for storing telephone directory address.

U.S. Patent No. 6198812 to Weber discloses a filter for incoming telephone calls.

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U.S. Patent No. 5602908 to Fan discloses an apparatus that can identify a calling party information.

U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0159574 A1 to Stogel discloses a directory system for telephones.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Beniyam Menberu whose telephone number is (703) 306-3441. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00AM-4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly Williams can be reached on (703) 305-4863. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

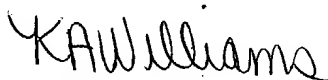
Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the customer service office whose telephone number is (703) 306-5631. The group receptionist number for TC 2600 is (703) 305-4700.

Patent Examiner

Beniyam Menberu

BM

11/24/2004


KIMBERLY WILLIAMS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER